Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 20 Mar 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 21 Mar 2021

Forecast Issued on Saturday 20 Mar 2021 at 03:20

Confidence: High for generally settled conditions through the weekend and a gradual change to more unsettled conditions next week, but lower for cloud amounts and timing of any periods of rain next week.

Headline for Saturday 20 Mar 2021: Mainly dry with sunny spells, especially in east, some hill fog in west.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 20 Mar 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Low Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
MIST	FOG				FOG
Mist	Fog	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Fog
Precipitation probability					
10%	10%	10%	<05%	<05%	<05%

Forecast for Saturday 20 Mar 2021

Weather: Across the eastern fells a largely fine day with some good spells of sunshine, however western fells look cloudier with the odd spot or two of drizzle until mid-afternoon and extensive hill fog. Dry with clear spells through the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Close to zero across western fells until mid-afternoon, otherwise around 75%.

Visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 300-450m in the west lifting and breaking through the afternoon, but only occasional cloud above 600-750m across eastern fells. Away from cloud visibility mainly good

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Forecast for Saturday 20 Mar 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	15/17 SW	16/19 SW	13/18 W	15/21 NW	22/28 NW	22/28 N	17/21 N
600	13/18 W	11/14 W	10/15 W	12/17 NW	18/25 NW	18/27 NW	9/14 NW
300	6/15 W	6/14 W	7/15 NW	8/17 NW	8/22 NW	10/23 NW	6/15 N
Valley	2/10 W	5/11 W	6/12 W	7/15 W	7/19 NW	10/21 NW	7/15 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	5/0	5/-0	3/-1	4/-1	3/-3	1/-5	2/-4
600	5/1	5/1	5/1	6/2	5/-0	3/-3	3/-1
300	6/4	7/5	7/5	8/6	6/4	5/2	5/3
Valley	7/6	8/6	8/7	9/8	8/6	7/4	7/5
Freezing Level*	1700m	1700m	1700m	1900m	1500m	1500m	1400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Significant chill still likely, especially as winds turn more northerly and strengthen.

Forecast for Sunday 21 Mar 2021

Weather: A rather cloudy but largely dry day, although cloud clearing later in the afternoon and for the evening.

Maximum wind: Northerly 15mph backing more westerly and easing 10mph or less.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Around 40% through the morning but increasing to 90% or more during the afternoon.

Visibility: Occasional or periods of cloud above 450-600m in the morning gradually breaking and lifting above the summits through the afternoon. Visibility good or very good.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 or 4 Celsius rising to plus 11 Celsius
At 800m: Plus 3 Celsius
Freezing level: Falling to just above the highest summits.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 19 March 2021 Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:20 Full report: We are continuing to provide the Fell Top Reports for people undertaking their daily local exercise during the lockdown. We would like to remind everyone that Government guidance stipulates that people should only exercise locally, not leaving the village, town or city where they live. The thaw continues, albeit at a slower pace owing to the location and height of the remaining snow; it was plus 2 degrees on the summit at midday and, although overnight temperatures may have dipped below freezing, there was no indication of a hard overnight frost. The majority of the Lake District paths and fells are now clear of snow and, below cloud height (c550m to 750m), paths were dry giving good traction. The remaining snow lies above 650m in isolated sheltered spots and hollows with the vast majority now above 850m predominantly, but not exclusively, on north and east facing aspects. The only unavoidable snow encountered today was situated in such locations at the exit to Swirral Edge and especially Striding Edge where there is a steep and deep (over 60cm) bank of snow. Today this was fairly soft snow; however it would only take a marginal drop in temperature for this to harden. Owing to the serious consequences of a slip here without the means to stop yourself with an immediate ice axe arrest, an ice axe is essential for anyone attempting the edges and it is strongly recommended to also carry crampons if negotiating Striding Edge. There are cornices above, again mainly but not exclusively, N and E facing slopes. Although these have dramatically reduced in size over the past few days and most have slumped, they are extremely unstable in the milder temperatures, so please keep off the snow near such edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Despite the appearance of Spring in the valleys, the summit wind chill remains below freezing, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat and gloves), mountain boots and equipment are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. Please be conservative with your plans and know both your limits and also when to turn back. A pandemic is not the time to be pushing your comfort zone. Temperature: plus 2.2 C, Maximum wind speed 30. 8mph, Wind chill: minus 5.5 C, Average wind speed: 21.9 mph

Issued at: 03:20 on Sat 20 Mar 2021

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